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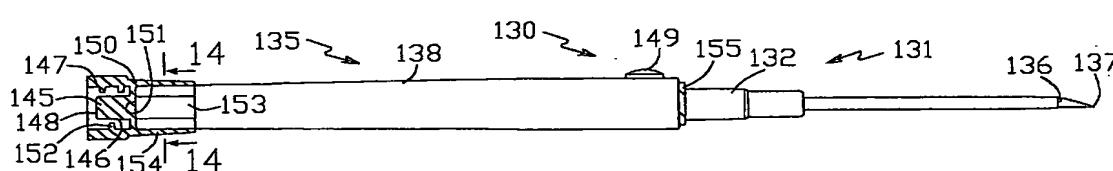
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(54) Title: CATHETER INTRODUCER



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(57) Abstract: Safety catheter introducer 135 (see fig. 13) comprises catheter 131, needle 136, a safety means including needle protector 138 and actuated by trigger 149, as well as catheter cap 150. The latter is initially detachably retained on hexagonal shank 153 of protector 138 by moderate friction forces, and male luer member 145 is protected from contact with personnel by cap lateral wall 147. After the catheter emplacement, needle withdrawal and needle sharp point protection, operator turns protector 138 through 180 degrees and fixes cap 150 on catheter 131 by thread 152 using protector 138 as a cap holder. In doing so, male luer member 145 occludes the catheter entrance. Thereafter, operator easily detaches the protector from the cap. As a result, catheter 131 remains in patient's vein being closed with cap 150.